

REMARKS

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a).

Claims 1-21 and 23-51 are pending in the present application. Claims 9 and 19 are the independent claims. Claims 1-8, 10, 11, 20, 25, 26, 31, 34, 35, 50, and 51 have been withdrawn as being drawn to a non-elected species.

Claim 22 has been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 9, 12, 15, 19, and 23 have been amended. No new matter is believed to have been added.

Initially, Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that claims 15, 16, 23, 24, 27-30, 32, 33, and 36-49 recite patentable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the features of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. By the present Amendment, Applicant has rewritten claims 15 and 23 in independent form. Claims 16, 24, 27-30, 32, 33, and 36-49 depend either directly or indirectly from claims 15 or 23. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 15, 16, 23, 24, 27-30, 32, 33, and 36-49 are now in allowable form.

The Office Action objected to FIGS. 10A and 10B for failing to illustrate angle "S" described at paragraph [0077] of Applicant's disclosure. In response, Applicants have amended paragraph [0077] to explain that angle "S" is illustrated in FIG. 14.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objected to claim 22. By the present Amendment, Applicant has cancelled claim 22. Accordingly, it is submitted that this objection is moot.

Claims 9, 12, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,502,917 (Shinada et al.). Claims 13, 14, 17, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Shinada et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,250,750 (Miyazawa et al.). All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 9 and 19 now recite, inter alia, a hook member rotatably disposed on a latch....

However, it is respectfully submitted that Shinada et al. does not teach at least the aforementioned features of amended independent claims 9 and 19.

Shinada et al. relates to an ink-jet printing apparatus and ink cartridge therefore and discusses an apparatus including a hook portion 18. The Office Action contends that this hook portion is a hook member. (Office Action, page 4).

Assuming arguendo that the Office's characterization of this hook member is correct, as at least FIGS. 2 and 3 of Shinada et al. illustrate, this alleged hook portion is not rotatably disposed. Thus, Shinada et al. does not teach at least the aforementioned features of amended independent claims 9 and 19.

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 9 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103, Miyazawa et al. relates to an ink cartridge and loading mechanism for an ink cartridge and is cited for its alleged disclosures of various features of dependent claims 13, 14, 17, and 18. Applicant submits that Miyazawa et al. does not add anything to the disclosure of Shinada et al. to remedy the aforementioned deficiency.

Request for Rejoinder

Lastly, since claims 9 and 19 patentably define over the cited art, Applicant respectfully requests that withdrawn dependent claims 10, 11, 20, 25, 26, 31, 34, and 35 be rejoined with allowable claims 9 and 19.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims patentably define the present invention over the citations of record. Further, the dependent claims should also be allowable for the same reasons as their respective base claims and further due to the additional features that they recite. Separate and individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action. However, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to such matters.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Serial No. 10/757,995

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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